#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

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In the Matter of

DAVID A. WILBIRT, M.D.

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Case No: MD-03-0749, MD-05-0173 MD-05-0798, MD-05-0888

INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER FOR SUMMARY SUSPENSION OF LICENSE

Holder of License No. **9920**For the Practice of Allopathic Medicine In the State of Arizona.

#### INTRODUCTION

The above-captioned matter came on for discussion before the Arizona Medical Board on August 30, 2005. After reviewing relevant information and deliberating, the Board considered proceedings for a summary action against the license of David A. Wilbert, M.D. ("Respondent"). Having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters the following Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Summary Suspension of License, pending formal hearing or other Board action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

## **INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The Board is the duly constituted authority for licensing and regulating the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Respondent is the holder of License No. 9920 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.

# Case Number MD-03-0749

3. The Board initiated case number MD-03-0749 on August 4, 2003 after a pharmacist reported that Respondent was prescribing excessive amounts of Norco and OxyContin to patient RC. RC received 110 OxyContin 40mg tablets from three prescriptions filled between July 8, 2003 and July 29, 2003. RC also received 240 Norco

10 mg tablets from four prescriptions filled between July 20, 2003 and July 31, 2003. In his response to the allegations, Respondent reported he was alerted to the potential danger of Acetaminophen toxicity by a pharmacy technician. Respondent also indicated he questioned the veracity of the numerous prescriptions presented by RC.

4. Further investigation revealed Respondent had also prescribed excessive amounts of Norco and Effexor to patient MK. MK received 150 Norco 10 mg tablets from two prescriptions filled between July 17, 2003 and July 25, 2003 and 150 Effexor tablets filled between July 17, 2003 and July 18, 2003. MK also received 1250 Norco 10 mg tablets filled at five different pharmacies between October 26, 2003 and January 6, 2004.

### Case Number MD-05-0173

5. The Board initiated case number MD-05-0173 on March 19, 2005 after receiving an anonymous complaint alleging Respondent was prescribing medication for non-therapeutic purposes. Respondent prescribed Arimidex, Oxandrolone, Descanoate, Stanozolol, Cypionate, Novarel, Dyazide, Triamterene, Tamoxifen, Winstrol, Nondrolone, and Cytomel. These prescriptions were filled by an out-of-state pharmacy for use by a bodybuilder. Respondent has prescribed many of these drugs to clientele of a company called Bodybuilders.

# Case Number MD-05-0798

6. The Board initiated case number MD-05-0798 on August 8, 2005 after receiving a newspaper article describing a federal Drug Enforcement Administration ("DEA") investigation of Respondent. The article stated that Respondent had written thousands of illegal prescriptions over the past four years for steroids and human growth hormones for body builders and that the DEA confiscated three plastic bags of marijuana from Respondent's home.

### MD-05-0888

- 7. On April 13, 2005 Respondent entered into an Interim Consent Agreement for a Non-Disciplinary Practice Limitation ("Consent Agreement") after he suffered a stroke on February 16, 2005 and experienced subsequent cognitive impairment. The Consent Agreement prohibited Respondent from engaging in the practice of clinical medicine, including a prohibition on prescribing treatment or medications.
- 8. The Board initiated case number MD-05-0888 on August 25, 2005 after a pharmacist reported Respondent had telephoned him on August 22, 2005 with a prescription for Xanax for patient BP. The pharmacist noted suspicions about BP and concern about drug-seeking behavior.
- 9 On August 25, 2005 Board Staff issued a subpoena ordering Respondent to appear for an investigative interview concerning case numbers MD-03-0749, MD-05-0173, MD-05-0798 and MD-05-0888. In an August 26, 2005 letter from his counsel Respondent declined to appear for the investigative interview.
- 10. Respondent's disregard of the voluntary Consent Agreement indicates he is unwilling to be subject to the Board's regulatory powers.

## **INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- The Board possesses jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof and over Respondent, holder of License No. 9920 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(a) ("[v]iolating any federal or state laws, rules or regulations applicable to the practice of medicine;") A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(j) ("[p]rescribing, dispensing or administering any controlled substance or prescription-only drug for other than accepted therapeutic purposes;") A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) ("[v]iolating a formal order,

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 probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under this chapter;") A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(q) ("[a]ny conduct or practice that is or might be harmful or dangerous to the health of the patient or the public;") A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(hh)("[p]rescribing, dispensing or administering anabolic-androgenic steroids to a person for other than therapeutic purposes;") A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(ss) ("[p]rescribing, dispensing or furnishing a prescription medication or prescription-only device as defined in section 32-1901 to person unless the licensee first conducts a physical examination of that person or has previously established a doctor-patient relationship. . . ."

3. Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. A.R.S. § 32-1451(D).

#### ORDER: 3

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- Respondent's license to practice allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona,
  License No. 9920, is summarily suspended pending a formal hearing before an
  Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Respondent of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against him. Respondent is entitled to a formal hearing to defend these charges as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this order.
- 3. The Board's Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling of an administrative hearing to be commenced as expeditiously as possible from the date of the issuance of this order, unless stipulated and agreed otherwise by Respondent.

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ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

By: Co Co Mill

TIMOTHY C. MILLER, J.D. Executive Director

ORIGINAL of the foregoing filed this \_2, day of August 2005 with:

The Arizona Medical Board 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by US Certified Mail this 2 day of 2005 to:

David G. Derickson, P.C. 3636 North Central – Suite 1050 Phoenix, Arizona 85012-1941

Executed copy of the foregoing mailed by US Mail this 2 day of August 2005 to:

David A. Wilbirt, M.D. Address of Record

Dean Brekke Assistant Attorney General Arizona Attorney General's Office 1275 West Washington, CIV/LES Phoenix, AZ 85007

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